

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 106369

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ORIGIN AF-03

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:JHALL DIGGS

APPROVED BY: AF/C:WLCUTLER

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R 071828Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELD

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FOLLOWING REPEAT LIBREVILLE 0633 ACTION USDOC
SECSTATE DTD 29 APR

QTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD

SUBJ: AIR TRANSAFRICA AND RHODESIAN SANCTIONS

USDOC FOR APPEALS BOARD (DOLAN)

REF: DOLAN/AIR TRANSAFRICA LETTER OF APRIL 11, 1975

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED WITH SOME PUZZLEMENT REFERENCED
MEMO REQUESTING IT TO DELIVER TO AIR TRANSAFRICA LETTER
INFORMING FIRM THAT IT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO U.S. SANCTIONS
UNLESS IT COULD ESTABLISH THAT IT HAD NO CONNECTION WITH
GABONESE REGISTERED FIRM AFFRETAIR. OUR PUZZLEMENT DUE
TO FACT WE HAD ALWAYS BEEN UNDER IMPRESSION AIR TRANSAFRICA
WAS RHODESIAN FIRM AND WE KNOW OF NO ONE IN GABON CONNECTED
WITH FIRM.

2. ASSUMING WASHINGTON HAD INFO UNAVAILABLE TO US AND
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DETERMINED TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN THE VIGOROUS

APPLICATION OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS, EMBASSY COUNSELOR
TOOK LETTER TO ADAMS, AFFRETAIR REP, WHO ONLY PERSON
KNOWN TO EMBASSY TO BE FULLY KNOWLEDGEABLE RHODESIAN
ACTIVITIES HERE AND WHO HAD RECENTLY PROVED TO BE
FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE.

3. ADAMS READ LETTER AND ASKED WITH UNCONCEALED
AMUSEMENT WHETHER WASHINGTON DID NOT HAVE A SALISBURY
TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FROM WHICH IT COULD READILY BE LEARNED
THAT AIR TRANSAFRICA WAS RHODESIAN FIRM WITH HEADQUARTERS
IN SALISBURY. ADAMS SAID HE ASSUMED AIR TRANSAFRICA HAD
LONG BEEN ON U.S. SANCTIONS LIST BECAUSE IT WAS RHODESIAN
FIRM, IRRESPECTIVE OF ANY TIES WITH AFFRETAIR WHICH
ADAMS CATEGORICALLY DENIED EXISTED.

4. IN ORDER TO BE HELPFUL, ADAMS OFFERED TO MAIL
DEPARTMENT'S LETTER FOR US IN SALISBURY AS THERE WAS NO
ONE CONNECTED WITH AIR TRANSAFRICA IN GABON. ADAMS
OPINED THAT COMPANY WOULD BE AS SURPRISED AND AMUSED AS
HE WAS TO RECEIVE LETTER AND HARDLY LIKELY TO REPLY.

5. COMMENT: BELIEVE WE SHOULD PLACE AIR TRANSAFRICA
ON CURRENT LIST OF RHODESIAN FIRMS WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.
SUGGEST ALSO AF/C PASS TO COMMERCE COPY OF COUNTRYMAN/ADAMS
MEMCON OF APRIL 17 ON ACTIVITIES OF AFFRETAIR AND AIR
TRANSAFRICA (POUCHED APRIL 26.)
MCKESSON UNQTE KISSINGER

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